

Gupt Naam, or The Secret Name

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Vaahi-Guroo Jee Ka Khalsa

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Why did Guru Nanak Dev Jee use words like Ram, Har, Gopal, Allah when referring to his Beloved Master? Why not just say 'Waheguru' in every shabad and at every reference to God? Why say 'Naam Japo' and make countless references to 'Naam' when Dhan Dhan Guru Nanak Dev jee could have just as easily have said 'Waheguru japo' and written Waheguru in place of Naam or Ram, or Har, or Gopal or a thousand other wonderful names?

Why?

It seems the word 'Waheguru', the sacred word, the Guru's Formula, the Gur Mantr was kept secret, so secret that it is never mentioned by the first nine forms of Guru Nanak Dev jee in any shabd in the Guru Granth Sahib Jee. The only shabd that expresses divine ecstasy is written by a brahm-giani poet and included in Guru Granth Sahib jee by Guru Arjun Dev jee. The shabd begins and ends with 'Waheguru Waheguru Waheguru Wahe-jeeo.'

Our Guru Sahib were totally and utterly immersed with 'Waheguru Waheguru' inside out outside like a fish in wonderful, Waheguru water. So why didn't that Word spill over into the Shabads that flowed like cool, refreshing streams from their divine mouths?

To my limited understanding it seems this word was a pure secret, never to be uttered in public or in front of the uninitiated.

Only to be uttered internally, with love, like a soul-bride's whisper on the pillow of the heart into the ear of God the Husband.

This sacred, secret formula was revealed to Guru Nanak Dev jee when he was called infront of the Timeless Being. He disappeared for 3 days while bathing in the river bein. Guru Nanak Dev jee said he was called infront of the Supreme Being and given the cup of amrit, he was given the authority to be satGuru and to spread the True Name 'Waheguru' in the World.

I have read that Guru Nanak Dev jee in his first 9 forms used to initiate disciples with charan-amrit. Holy water in which the Guru dipped his amrit-drenched toe hence purifying the water. This was given to the Sikhs, the GurMantr was whispered into their ear. Direct from SatGuru to Sikh, with love and in secret.

To my understanding singing kirtan was used for preaching. Guru jee's used the simple, common language of whichever place they were at. Guru Nanak Dev jee knew many languages, Guru Gobind Singh jee was master of 17 languages. They went to the common people and spoke to them in their language, using the names of god and examples of good and bad from their cultures. They used Words like Ram, Har, Allah, Gopal and so on and gave examples of how Dropatee's honour was saved by god, or how the warrior goddess Chandee obtained power from God (Chandee-Dee-Var). Kirtan has a magical effect on people, sung by Guru jee's in raag with love and sweetness is enough to make any ego melt. Hindus, Muslims, Jains and countless other people came into the sadh-sangat. All were welcomed and inspired to Godliness by the words and examples they could understand.

At a later stage of development they would try to understand the shabd and the natural question would arise 'what

is this NAAM' that is mentioned time and time again? They would be told that to purchase this priceless jewel they had to give their head to the Guru, become a disciple and live according to the Sikh way of Life.

As far as I understand, Naam was always secret and one had to give their head/ego to purchase it direct from the Guru. There are offshoots from Sikhism that still get their living Guru to whisper the secret Naam into the disciple's ear. Some of them give the Naam waheguru, others give another naam. Bhai Gurdas Jee has written 'Waheguru GurMantr ha'..Waheguru is the Gur Mantr. Guru Gobind Singh Jee has also written in several places that Waheguru is what a Sikh meditates upon.

Guru Gobind Singh jee changed the charan-amrit ceremony from being merely spiritual initiation, into a spiritual and soldier intiation. That is why the ceremony can be performed by 5 Punj Pyare or Generals, they give you the 5K uniform including a weapon...you are recruited as a soldier into the army of God, 'Khalsa Akal Purakh ke Fauj.' They also give you amrit and Gur Mantr and Moolmantr and the daily prayers...you are recruited as a saint. To remain as a soldier and as a saint the Punj Pyare give you the moral code of conduct..they give you discipline which gives the crumbling sand-castle of the mind support. This Amrit ceremony is still performed in secret, behind closed doors, with a guard at the entrance. What happens in there is between the Guru and the Sikh.

Anyone who is meditating on Naam without having taken amrit, is like a person who is holding the jewel but didnt pay the price. They've accidentally discovered the secret Waheguru Waheguru, getting up early, doing nitnem and so on, but they didn't pay the price of their head/ego. So their efforts are wasted.

Like a thief who can't sell the stolen goods, God won't accept their efforts.

If you want to do naam simran, then take amrit. If you want to purchase the jewel then pay the price of ego like countless Sikhs who wanted to follow the Guru's path.

.....keep sharing, caring, loving and learning

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